Message Text

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O 101623Z AUG 77 FM AMEMBASSY MADRID TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1341

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 5991

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, ENRG, MARR, SP

SUBJECT: JOING COMMITTEE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

SOLAR ENERGY PROPOSALS

REF: (A) STATE 187395; (B) MADRID 5881

1. EMBASSY SEES NO POLITICAL OBJECTIONS TO A COUNTER-PROPOSAL FROM THE U.S. AIDE OF THE S & T JOINT COMMITTEE INCREASING EMPHASIS ON SOLAR ENERGY. IN FACT JOINT COMMITTEE SECRETARY (BENAVIDES) TOLD SCIATT AUGUST 10 THAT EVEN THOUGH THE CONSEQUENCES MIGHT BE AWKWARD FOR THE SPANISH SIDE, THERE WAS ALREADY AN EXPECTATION ON THEIR PART THAT A U.S. COUNTERPROPOSAL WAS ALMOST INEVITABLE.

2. EMBASSY CONCURS IN DEPARTMENT'S OPINION THAT THE LEAST DISCRIMINATORY WAY TO MAKE CUTS WOULD BE IN THE ASSEMBLAGE OF MINISTRY OF EDUCATION PROPOSALS, BUT THE SPANISH SIDE WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO ARGUE THIS OUT AMONG THEMSELVES. A LESS ACRIMONIOUS DEBATE ON REALLOCATIONS BY THEIR SIDE SHOULD RESULT FROM THE CHANGE, NOW IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WORKS IN THE FONOFF, IN THE NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE INTERMINISTERIAL GROUP WHICH FORMS THE NONFONOFF PART OF THE SPANISH SIDE. THIS IS A RESULT OF THE JULY 4TH REORGANIZATION OF MINISTRIES AND THE SUBSEQUENT REPLACEMENT OF KEY PERSONNEL.

3. SPECIFICALLY ON SOLAR ENERGY, SECRETARY BENAVIDES

REAFFIRMS FOREIGN MINISTRY'S FULL SUPPORT OF THIS FIELD AS ONE OF VERY HIGH PRIORITY AND SUPPORTS THE IDEA OF AN EARLY MEETING AS PROPOSED BY ERDA AND ACCEPTED BY MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND ENERGY (REF. B).

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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TAGS: TGEN, ENRG, MARR, SP

To: STATE Type: TE

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